(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As Ramanathapuram does not qualify for classification as a 'C' Class City on the basis of its population, it is not possible to declare Ramanathapuram as a 'C' Class city.

Joint complaint against assault on a trade union activist in Chandigarh

3448. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various Opposition Political Parties of Chandigarh, submitted a joint complaint dated the 24th February, 1989 to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Chandigarh protesting against murderous assault on a trade union activist belonging to CITU, by goondas allegedly engaged by Pahwa Chains Industries Group, Chandigarh; and

(b) if so, the details of the incident and the steps taken by the Chandigarh Administration to apprehend the cluprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) M/s. Pahwa Chains Industries Group had some labour problems. Some workers had gone on strike whereas some continued to work. Due to this, there was tension between these two groups of workers. Preventive action to maintain public peace and order was taken against both the parties as per law. In the meantime, as per agreement reached between the striking workers and the Management, striking workers also joined their duties. However, on 22-2-89 both the groups again indulged in criminal activities in which Shri Mohammed Shahnaz CITU activist and Shri Achhar Singh, a worker belonging to management group sustained minor injuries. Both of them were medically examined. According to the medical report the injuries they had on their person, were of simple and blunt nature and as such, no cognizable offence was made out. However, two cross criminal cases have been registered against each other.

Permission for protest by C.P.I.(M) Punjab

3449. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chandigarh Administration denied permission to the peaceful protest by the Punjab State Committee of CPI(M) for focussing the failure of Government to give adequate relief to the flood affected people recently; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for denial of the permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Punjab State Committee of the C.P.I.(M) had sought permission to take out procession from Parade Ground, Sector 17 to Civil Secretariat and to stage dharna there for focussing the alleged inadequate relief provided to the flood affected people. The area of proposed procession route and dharna falls under the security zone. Moreover, prohibitary orders were also in force. There was, therefore, every possibility of infiltration of terrorists in the processionist Groups with the intention to distrub public peace in the sensitive Union Territory. Keeping all these factors in view, the permission was not granted.

Allowances admissible to workers in MITCO factories

3450. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shift allowance is given to the Staff but not to the workers in the MITCO factories; if so, what are the reasons for this discrimination;

(b) whether it is also a fact that LTC and picnic allowance are also different for the Staff and the workers of MITCO; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and